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IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US)

531 Rec'd PCT

19 MAY 2001

In re:

International Appl. No.:

International Filing Date:

For:

Chantal Cayeula et al.

PCT/FR99/02826

November 18, 1999

SELECTION AND USES OF LACTIC ACID  
BACTERIA STRAINS MODULATING  
NON-SPECIFIC IMMUNITY

Attn: DO/US

May 18, 2001

Box PCT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In The Abstract:

Please add the following as page 13 of the application:

#### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention concerns lactic acid bacteria strains capable of regulating the production of NO and inflammatory cytokines by enterocytes, depending on the inflammatory condition of said enterocytes. The strains can also be incorporated in food supplements such as fermented dairy products used for regulating inflammatory response and non-specific immunity.

In The Specification:

Please add the following heading on Page 1 of the present application after the title and before the first paragraph:

✓ FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following heading on Page 1, between the first and second paragraphs:

✓ BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following heading on Page 4, as Line 8 of the present application:

✓ SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION